

tubular fabric and at least one end of the sack is formed by folding fabric ends of the fabric to a bottom surface, wherein at least one end of the sack is bonded, via an intermediate layer, by means of heat to a cover sheet made of fabric comprising monoaxially drawn tapes of polymer, and wherein only an external surface area of the bottom surface and the cover sheet being less than 30% of the material thickness of the fabric tapes includes disoriented polymer molecules due to the heat, wherein a remainder of the material has molecules that are oriented.

2 27. (new) A sack according to claim 1 26, wherein the sack has the shape of a box and the bottom surface is rectangular.

3 28. (new) A sack according to claim 1 26, wherein the fabric comprises monoaxially drawn single-layer tapes of polymer material selected from the group consisting of polyolefine and polypropylene.

4 29. (new) A sack according to claim 1 26, wherein fabric is coated on at least one side with thermoplastic material.

5 30. (new) A sack according to claim 4 29, wherein the coated fabric comprises a coating which serves as an intermediate layer between an end of the sack and the cover sheet.

6 31. (new) A sack according to claim 4 29, wherein the coated fabric comprises a coating which is mixed with an ethylene and vinyl acetate polymer and the intermediate layer is made of thermoplastic material.

7 32. (new) A sack according to claim 4 29, wherein the coated fabric comprises a coating having a thickness of about 5-60  $\mu\text{m}$ .

~~33~~<sup>8</sup>. (new) A sack according to claim ~~26~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the bottom surface is bonded via the intermediate layer to the cover sheet.

~~34~~<sup>9</sup>. (new) A sack according to claim ~~26~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the sack comprises fabric parts which are folded to form an end of the sack and which do not substantially overlap each other, and a separate cover sheet for sealing off the bottom surface.

~~35~~<sup>10</sup>. (new) A sack according to claim ~~34~~<sup>9</sup>, wherein the fabric parts comprise a longitudinal fabric part and a narrow-side fabric part forming a folding edge, wherein at least one adhesive area is formed at at least one side of an end surface formed by the fabric parts in an area near a common part of the folding edge between the longitudinal fabric part and the narrow-side fabric part, the adhesive area being made of a material selected from the group consisting of a cold-bonding agent, a hot-melt adhesive, and a thermoplastic material being lower in melting point than the material of the fabric.

~~36~~<sup>11</sup>. (new) A sack according to claim ~~35~~<sup>10</sup>, wherein the adhesive area comprises an adhesive point.

~~37~~<sup>12</sup>. (new) A sack according to claim ~~34~~<sup>9</sup>, wherein the fabric parts comprise a plurality of longitudinal fabric parts and narrow-side fabric parts, wherein on at least one side of an end surface formed by the fabric parts at least one of the longitudinal fabric parts has at least one opening in an area which, in a folded state, overlaps one narrow-side fabric part.

~~38~~<sup>13</sup>. (new) A sack according to claim ~~34~~<sup>9</sup>, wherein the fabric parts comprise a plurality of longitudinal fabric parts and narrow-side fabric parts, wherein the longitudinal fabric parts and narrow-side fabric parts forming one end surface of the sack are at least partly welded together in areas where the longitudinal fabric parts and narrow-side fabric parts overlap each other.

<sup>14</sup>  
~~39.~~ (new) A sack according to claim ~~31~~<sup>9</sup>, wherein the fabric parts are folded to form ends of the sack and pockets are formed by folding superimposed layers of the fabric parts in areas of end surfaces at the ends of the sack, and wherein the areas of the end surfaces are bonded to each other by a welding area.

<sup>15</sup>  
~~40.~~ (new) A sack according to claim ~~26~~<sup>1</sup>, further comprising a layer of molten plastic material interposed between an end of the sack and the cover sheet.

<sup>16</sup>  
~~41.~~ (new) A sack according to claim ~~26~~<sup>1</sup>, further comprising at least one valve disposed between an end of the sack and the cover sheet for filling with a filling material.

<sup>17</sup>  
~~42.~~ (new) A sack according to claim ~~41~~<sup>16</sup>, wherein the at least one valve is disposed between the bottom surface and the cover sheet.

<sup>18</sup>  
~~43.~~ (new) A sack according to claim ~~41~~<sup>16</sup>, wherein the at least one valve is automatically closed by pressure of the filling material when the sack is full.

<sup>19</sup>  
~~44.~~ (new) A sack according to claim ~~41~~<sup>16</sup>, wherein the sack comprises longitudinal and narrow-side fabric parts which form the end surface of the sack, wherein there is provided at least one opening in at least one longitudinal fabric part involved in the formation of the end surface of the sack in an area between an inner edge of one narrow-side fabric part involved in the formation of the end surface of the sack and an inner edge of the at least one valve, the area being disposed between the narrow-side fabric part and longitudinal fabric parts.

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~~45.~~ (new) A sack according to claim ~~26~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the tape fabric is perforated.

~~21~~  
46. (new) A sack according to claim ~~26~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein the monoaxially drawn tapes of polymer have a thickness of about 20-80  $\mu\text{m}$ .

~~22~~  
47. (new) A process for welding a cover sheet onto an end surface of a sack having a sack material, wherein the cover sheet and the sack material comprise foils or fabrics made of monoaxially drawn tapes of polymer, the process comprising the steps of:

introducing an intermediate layer made of molten polymer between the end surface and the cover sheet;  
pressing the end surface and the cover sheet together;  
and

cooling the end surface, intermediate layer, and cover sheet to ambient temperature, wherein only an external surface area of the end surface and the cover sheet includes disoriented polymer molecules and a remainder of the material includes molecules that are oriented.

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48. (new) A process according to claim ~~47~~<sup>22</sup>, wherein the step of introducing comprises introducing the intermediate layer at a temperature of about 150-380°C.

~~24~~  
49. (new) A process according to claim ~~48~~<sup>23</sup>, wherein the step of introducing comprises introducing the intermediate layer at a temperature of about 230-260°C.

~~25~~  
50. (new) A process according to claim ~~47~~<sup>22</sup>, wherein the step of introducing comprises introducing the intermediate layer between a bottom surface of the sack and the cover sheet.

~~26~~  
51. (new) A process according to claim ~~47~~<sup>22</sup>, wherein the steps of pressing and cooling are performed substantially simultaneously by pressing the end surface and the cover sheet together using at least one cooled pressing element.

~~27~~ 52. (new) A process according to claim ~~51~~<sup>26</sup>, wherein the steps of pressing and cooling comprise pressing the end surface and the cover sheet together using a pair of cooled rollers.

~~28~~ 53. (new) A process according to claim ~~47~~<sup>22</sup>, wherein the step of introducing comprises introducing the intermediate layer made of molten polymer through a broad-slit or fiber-extrusion die between the end surface and the cover sheet.

~~29~~ 54. (new) A process according to claim ~~47~~<sup>22</sup>, further comprising the step of heating the end surface and the cover sheet.

~~30~~ 55. (new) A process according to claim ~~54~~<sup>29</sup>, wherein the steps of heating and pressing are performed substantially simultaneously by pressing the end surface and the cover sheet together using at least one heated roller having a line surface profile.

~~31~~ 56. (new) A process according to claim ~~47~~<sup>22</sup>, further comprising the step of folding longitudinal and narrow-side fabric flaps of the sack to form the end surface.

~~32~~ 57. (new) A process according to claim ~~56~~<sup>31</sup>, further comprising, prior to the step of introducing, the step of providing at least one opening in at least one longitudinal fabric flap involved in the formation of the end surface of the sack in an area which overlaps one narrow-side fabric flap involved in the formation of the end surface, wherein the step of introducing comprises introducing the intermediate layer through the at least one opening.

~~33~~ 58. (new) A process according to claim ~~56~~<sup>31</sup>, further comprising, prior to the step of folding, the step of providing at least one adhesive area at least on one side of an area close to a common portion of a folding edge formed between one

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longitudinal fabric flap and one narrow-side fabric flap, the at least one adhesive area being made of a material selected from the group consisting of a cold-bonding agent, a hot-melt adhesive, and a thermoplastic material being lower in melting point than the material of the fabric.

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59. (new) A process according to claim ~~58~~<sup>33</sup>, further comprising, subsequent to the step of folding, the step of applying heat to bond the longitudinal and narrow-side flaps with the at least one adhesive area.

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60. (new) A process according to claim ~~58~~<sup>33</sup>, further comprising, subsequent to the step of folding, the step of applying pressure to bond the longitudinal and narrow-side flaps with the at least one adhesive area.

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61. (new) A process according to claim ~~58~~<sup>33</sup>, further comprising, subsequent to the step of folding, the step of applying hot air and pressure to bond the longitudinal and narrow-side flaps with the at least one adhesive area.

~~37~~  
62. (new) A process according to claim ~~56~~<sup>31</sup>, wherein the step of folding comprises forming a pocket.

~~38~~  
63. (new) A process according to claim ~~62~~<sup>37</sup>, further comprising the step of welding the longitudinal and narrow-side fabric flaps and the pocket with each other by pressing a heated pin from outside the end surface of the sack against the fabric flaps and pocket.

~~39~~  
64. (new) A process according to claim ~~56~~<sup>31</sup>, further comprising, prior to the step of introducing, the step of providing at least one opening in at least one longitudinal fabric flap involved in the formation of the end surface of the sack in an area which is defined by an inner edge of the narrow-side fabric flap involved in the formation of the end surface and an inner edge of a valve disposed between the narrow-side and

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